

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PBOR, TPHY, OCLR, UR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PROJECT AIDJEX FLIGHT

1. AIDJEX (ARCTIC ICE DYNAMICS JOINT EXPERIMENT) IS A PROJECT INVOLVING AIR-DROP PLACEMENT OF SIX DATA BUOYS ON THE ICE IN THE CHUKCHI SEA TO MONITOR MOVEMENT OF PACK ICE. BUOYS WILL BE 2-FOOT LEXAN SPHERES CONTAINING BATTERY AND UHF TRANSMITTER. BUOY WILL TRANSMIT BEACON SIGNAL MONITORED BY NASA NIMBUS SATELLITE. TWO BUOYS WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH BAROMETERS. ONE BAROMETER BUOY AND ONE OTHER BUOY WILL HAVE BATTERY ENDURANCE OF ONE YEAR. REMAINING FOUR HAVE BATTERIES GOOD FOR 6-7 MONTHS.

2. BUOYS WILL BE AIR-DROPPED BY ONE OF THREE US-REGISTERED CIVIL AIRCRAFT, OPERATED BY THE UNIVERSITY

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OF ALASKA FOR THE US NAVAL ARCTIC RESEARCH LABORTORY.

AIRCRAFT DETAILS FOLLOW:

N-127RL, DHC-6 TWIN OTTER, WHITE WITH BLUE TRIM.
N-3131, SUPER DC-3, WHITE, INTERNATIONAL ORANGE TRIM,
MARKED "NAVAL ARCTIC RESEARCH LABORATORY".
N-722NR, SUPER DC-3, SAME MARKINGS AS OTHER DC-3.

3. PROPOSED COORDINATES FOR PLACEMENT OF BUOYS:

69 DEG 40 MIN N, 173 DEG 40 MIN W. BAROMETER

71 " 45 " N, 173 " 00 " W. 1-YEAR BATTERY

68 " 50 " N, 168 " 59 " W.

67 " 05 " N, 168 " 00 " W.

72 " 20 " N, 166 " 00 " W.

70 " 40 " N, 165 " 40 " W.

4. THE FIRST TWO LOCATIONS ABOVE, WEST OF 169 DEG W,
ARE IN THE SO-CALLED NON-FREE-FLYING ZONE. FLIGHT IN
THE NON-FREE-FLYING ZONE MAY REQUIRE COORDINATION WITH
SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO PREVENT MISUNDERSTANDING. THE
FLIGHT WILL REMAIN AT ALL TIMES IN INTERNATIONAL AIRSPACE,
SO THAT SOVIET PERMISSION, AS SUCH, IS NOT REQUIRED.

5. ACTION: IF EMBASSY AGREES, WE WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR DISCUSSING PROJECT WITH APPROPRIATE SOVIET OFFICIALS.
WE WILL INFORM YOU OF EXACT TRACK AND TIMING, LATER
THIS MONTH.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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